

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) IDBI has reported that as on 31.03.1996, there were 111 defaulters to IDBI in Maharashtra involving an amount of Rs. 212.7 crore.

(f) IDBI has reported that its senior executives periodically review the cases and take corrective steps, incase incipient sickness is observed, such steps include rescheduling of principal dues, deferment of interest, waiver of penal interest etc. to tide over the temporary difficulties. Sick units falling under the definition of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 are referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and rehabilitation schemes are drawn in case of viable projects. Suitable legal remedies are initiated in respect of non-viable projects. One time settlement is also entered into with the borrowing units.

Export of Cotton

1252. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations against the decision to allow the second instalment of cotton export within the two months of commencement of the cotton season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cotton allowed to be exported as on date, from the day of cotton season; and

(d) the quantum of cotton exported as well as imported during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
(a) and (b) The Government received a representation dated 31st Oct., 1996 from Northern India Textile Mills Association (NITMA) against the decision of the Government to release an export quota of 5 lakh bales of cotton as on 7.10.96 for the 1996-97 cotton season. In their representation, NITMA inter-alia suggested that Government should defer cotton exports not release upto January, 1997, remove restrictions on cotton yarn exports and not put cotton exports under OGL.

(c) So far, quotas for a total of 12.20 lakh bales of cotton have been released by the Government with effect from 25.9.96.

(d) The quantum of cotton exported and imported during the last three years is as follows :

(in lakh bales of 170 Kg.)

Year	import	Export
1993-94	3.00	3.89
1994-95	5.89	1.086
1995-96	0.50	12.24

Emphasis on SSI in 9th Plan

1253. DR. ASIM BALA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to lay emphasis on the development of Small Scale Industrial Sector in Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to promote Small Scale Industry in that Plan period; and

(c) the details of incentives proposed to be given to Small Scale Industrial Sector in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) According to the Approach Paper for the Ninth Plan, which was approved by the National Development Council, employment generation would be a priority area. Considering the capability of generating additional employment by the Small Scale Industrial (SSI) sector at lower investment levels in comparison to large and medium scale sector, emphasis would be laid upon for the development of Small Scale Industrial sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) As the detailed 9th Plan is yet to be formulated, it is premature at this stage to indicate the steps/incentives proposed to be given to the Small Scale Industrial sector.

[Translation]

Policy to Boost Export

1254. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to boost the trade with other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new markets were found during the last year for any specific exports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made in our foreign trade in view of part (a) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Government through its Policy and Procedures aims to provide an export friendly and favourable environment for boosting exports. Continuous efforts are made to improve trade with all countries through bilateral and multilateral efforts.

(c) and (d) Government attaches importance to increasing trade with all trading partners. However, special efforts were made recently through agreement on border trade with Myanmar, opening of trade ties

with South Africa and Israel, commercial alliances for promoting trade with US and European Union and regional initiatives for trade with SAARC countries resulting in operationalising SAPTA.

(e) There has been a steady and sustained growth in India's exports.

[English]

Income Tax Tribunals

1255. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Income Tax Tribunals set up in the country and location thereof;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to open an Income Tax Tribunal at Bangalore;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the details of other places where new Income Tax Tribunals are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The Income-tax Appellate Tribunal has at present 38 benches at 19 stations around the country. The details of these benches are as follows :

	Name of Station	No. of Benches
1.	Mumbai	5
2.	Delhi	5
3.	Calcutta	5
4.	Madras	4
5.	Ahmedabad	3
6.	Nagpur	1
7.	Pune	1
8.	Allahabad	2
9.	Amritsar	1
10.	Chandigarh	1
11.	Indore	1
12.	Jabalpur	1
13.	Jaipur	1
14.	Cuttack	1
15.	Guwahati	1
16.	Patna	1
17.	Bangalore	1
18.	Cochin	1
19.	Hyderabad	2

(b) to (d) Government has recently decided to establish 15 new benches of the Tribunal at the following

places :

	Name of Station	No. of Benches
1.	Rajkot	1
2.	Agra	1
3.	Bangalore	2
4.	Mumbai	5
5.	Chandigarh	1
6.	New Delhi	2
7.	Jodhpur	1
8.	Panaji	1
9.	Vishakhapatnam	1

Exemption to Cyclone Relief Goods

1256. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued orders exempting cyclone relief goods from duties;

(b) if so, whether this decision has helped in getting good response from exporters for relief and rehabilitation to these cyclone victims in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the total number of goods imported and donated for the relief and rehabilitation of this cyclone affected people of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether some more concessions are being provided so that more relief comes to the people of Andhra Pradesh who are affected by the cyclone; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued notification Nos. 2/97-Customs and 1/97-Central Excise both dated 15.1.1997 providing full exemption from customs and excise duties to goods imported/manufactured and donated for the relief and rehabilitation of the cyclone affected people of Andhra Pradesh. Both these exemptions are valid upto 30.6.1997.

(b) and (c) No data is available in this regard.

(d) and (e) Since the notifications grant full exemption from both customs and excise duties on all goods donated for the relief and rehabilitation of the cyclone victims, the question of giving further concessions in customs and excise duties does not arise.

Long Term Loans to Bihar, U.P. and Delhi

1257. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of long term loan given to the Bihar,